

## QUESTION AND ANSWER

**Question:** I am a CCW instructor, does that mean I can certify L.E.O.S.A. applicants too?

**Answer:** No. L.E.O.S.A instructors must be certified firearm instructors with the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training (APOST) Board. To be a L.E.O.S.A. recognized instructor, complete the application available on our website at [www.azdps.gov/ccw](http://www.azdps.gov/ccw) and submit to CWPU. Once APOST certification is confirmed, CWPU will issue a L.E.O.S.A. certification number and notify the instructor-applicant. There is no fee to be an instructor.

**Question:** Do I have to be an Arizona resident to qualify for a L.E.O.S.A.?

**Answer:** Yes. The L.E.O.S.A. certificate is valid only for Arizona residents. (U.S.C. Title 18, Ch. 44, Section 926C(9)(d)2(B)). Arizona resident is defined in A.R.S. §28-2001. \*Applicants may be retired from agencies outside of Arizona but must be Arizona residents to apply for and be approved for a certificate of firearms proficiency.

**Question:** Can I use the L.E.O.S.A. certificate to purchase firearms in Arizona as I can with my CCW permit?



**Answer:** No. The certificate is not recognized as an alternate permit to purchase firearms. The application process does not include a NICS check.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact our office at 602/256-6280 or 800/256-6280 (outside of metropolitan Phoenix) for further information.

We are happy to serve you  
Monday—Friday, 8:00 a.m.—  
5:00 p.m.

E-mail us at [ccw@azdps.gov](mailto:ccw@azdps.gov)

		STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY <i>Courteous Vigilance</i>			
Retired Law Enforcement Officer Certificate of Firearms Proficiency <b>JOE SAMPLE</b>					
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY CERTIFICATION # 000000					
TYPE: Pistol & Revolver		QUALIFICATION DATE: 11/11/1996			
RACE W	GENDER M	HT 6	WGT 200	HAIR BRO	EYES BRO
		DOB 00/00/0000			

This informational brochure was published by the DPS Concealed Weapon Permit Unit  
[www.azdps.gov/ccw](http://www.azdps.gov/ccw)

The Arizona Department of Public Safety is an Equal Employment Opportunity Agency

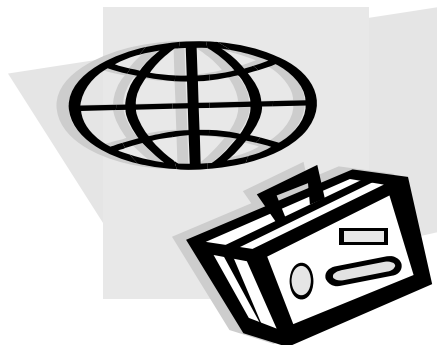
Arizona Department  
of Public Safety  
Concealed Weapon  
Permit Unit

## LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SAFETY ACT (L.E.O.S.A.) Certificate of Firearms Proficiency



February 2007

# THE L.E.O.S.A. CERTIFICATE OF FIREARMS PROFICIENCY



On July 7, 2004, the United States Senate passed H.R. 218, "the Law Enforcement Officers' Safety Act" (L.E.O.S.A.) by unanimous consent. It was subsequently signed into law by President George W. Bush amending United States Code Title 18. The amendment exempts qualified active and retired law enforcement officers from select local and State prohibitions on the carrying of concealed firearms. It **does not** provide police officer liability protection nor does it completely exempt active or retired officers from **all** state laws regarding carrying concealed firearms.

On August 11, 2005, Arizona H.B. 2450 became effective amending A.R.S. §13-3112, Concealed Carry Law, allowing the Department of Public Safety to issue certificates of firearms proficiency. The certificate is issued in accordance with the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training (APOST) Board firearms qualifications.

## ELIGIBILITY FOR L.E.O.S.A.

Title 18 U.S.C. section 926C states:

- ♦ retired in good standing from service with a public agency as a law enforcement officer, other than for reasons of mental instability;
- ♦ before such retirement was authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law, and had statutory powers of arrest;
- ♦ before such retirement, was regularly employed as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate of 15 years or more OR retired from service with such agency, after completing any applicable probationary period of such service, due to a service-connected disability by such agency;
- ♦ has a non-forfeitable right to benefits under the retirement plan of the agency;
- ♦ during the most recent 12-month period, has met, at the expense of the individual, the State's standards for training and qualification for active law enforcement officers to carry firearms;
- ♦ is not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance; and
- ♦ is not prohibited by Federal law from receiving a firearm.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Visit our website at [www.azdps.gov/ccw](http://www.azdps.gov/ccw) for a list of L.E.O.S.A. recognized instructors.
2. Contact a L.E.O.S.A. instructor and complete the AZPOST firearms qualification course for the type of handgun you wish to carry.
3. Obtain the application form from the instructor or download it from our website. Ensure the instructor completes his/her portion.
4. Obtain a letter from your agency which verifies your status. The letter must a) be on agency letterhead; b) include the name and phone number of a contact person at the agency for employment verification purposes; c) include identifying information on the applicant that indicates the applicant meets the requirements of Title 18 U.S.C. section 926C.
5. Submit the completed application; the agency letter; a photocopy of the retired credentials issued by your agency, and a \$20.00 money order (payable to DPS) to the CWPU. The agency letter and copy of credentials are required for the first application only.
6. Applications are processed within 7 days of receipt and certificates mailed to applicants.

